

CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. In a process for producing a high WVTR film comprising:

- a) extruding a precursor film from a polyolefin/filler combination;
- b) optionally embossing said precursor film to impose thereon in a pattern of multiple film thickness; the improvement including passing said precursor film through at least one pair of interdigitating grooved rollers to impart greater water vapor transmission to said film.
- 2. The process of claim 1, wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of m-LLDPE, Z-N LLDPE, polypropylene (PP), copolymers polypropylene, and combinations thereof;

wherein said filler is CaCO3;

wherein said polyolefin and said filler are present in said film in a polyolefin/filler ratio of from 3/1 - 1:2; and wherein said film has a WVTR above 100 g/m²/day @ 38° C and 90% RH.

3. The process of claim 1 wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of m-LLDPE, PP, and combinations thereof;

wherein said filler in said film in a polyolefin/filler ratio of from 2:1 - 2:3; and

wherein said film has a WVTR above 200 g/m²/day @ 38° C and 90% RH.

- 4. The process of claims 2 or 3 wherein said film additionally comprises an elastomer selected from the group consisting of SBS and SIS, wherein said elastomer is present in said film from 5-40 pphp.
 - 5. In a method of forming a high W/TR film, the improvement comprising:

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- a) passing a precursor film through at least one pair of interdigitating grooved roolers, said rollers having a depth sufficient to impart a WVTR of at least 100 g/m²/day, and
- b) wherein said precursor film includes a polyolefin about 100 parts, a filler present in the range of from 35 to 200 parts per hundred parts of said polyolefin.
- 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of m-LLDPE, Z-N LLDPE, PP, copolymer PP, and combinations thereof, wherein said filler is CaCO₃;

wherein said filler is present in said film from 50 to 150 pphp; and wherein said film has a WVTR above 100 g/m²/day.

- 7. The process of claim 6 wherein said film additionally comprises an elastomer selected from the group consisting of SBS and SIS, wherein said elastomer is present in said film from 5-30 pphp.
 - 8. A method of making a high WVTR film from a precursor film, comprising:
 - (a) simultaneously passing at least a single precursor film through a sufficiently constrictive nip between two interdigitating grooved rolls to effect lateral stretching of said precursor film;
 - (b) passing said film of (a) over a means for extending the fabric barrier to its fullest resultant width; wherein said film of (a) or (b) has a WVTR exceeding 100 g/m²/day; and
 - wherein said precursor film is made from a polyolefin selected from the group consisting of m-LLDPE, Z-N LLDPE, PP, and combinations thereof, and CaCO₃ present in said precursor film from 35-200 pphp.
- 9. A process of claim 8 wherein said film additionally comprises an elastomer selected from the group consisting of SBS and SIS, wherein said elastomer is present in said film/from 5-30 pphp.

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10. The process of claim 9 wherein said film additionally comprises an elastomer selected from the group consisting of SBS and SIS, wherein said elastomer is present in said film from 5-25 pphp.

